

## Message

**From:** Saric, James [saric.james@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 12/7/2017 8:56:26 PM  
**To:** Reshkin, Karen [Reshkin.Karen@epa.gov]; Russell, Diane [russell.diane@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Ostermeier, Jennifer [Ostermeier.Jennifer@epa.gov]; Cannon, Phillippa [Cannon.Phillippa@epa.gov]; Berkoff, Michael [berkoff.michael@epa.gov]; Desai, Sheila [desai.sheila@epa.gov]; Mervenne, Chelsea [mervenne.chelsea@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: WEB UPDATE for Allied Paper/Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River website

Karen,

I am fine with this for the Plainwell Mill. Do you know where to insert the Kalamazoo River Language from that previous update. I would think you can simply delete the existing information and replace with the update. Let me know if you want me to rewrite any particular section.

Jim

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**From:** Reshkin, Karen  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 2:45 PM  
**To:** Saric, James <saric.james@epa.gov>; Russell, Diane <russell.diane@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Ostermeier, Jennifer <Ostermeier.Jennifer@epa.gov>; Cannon, Phillippa <Cannon.Phillippa@epa.gov>; Berkoff, Michael <berkoff.michael@epa.gov>; Desai, Sheila <desai.sheila@epa.gov>; Mervenne, Chelsea <mervenne.chelsea@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: WEB UPDATE for Allied Paper/Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River website

It's good to have that text, but I'm not certain how to integrate it into the parts I was asking about. Maybe this for Plainwell Mill?

### Operable Unit 7: Plainwell Mill

Preliminary work to remove PCB-contaminated sediment from the banks of the Plainwell Mill began in the fall of 2007 and was completed in March 2008. Approximately 5,000 cubic yards of material were removed. The first phase of the Remedial Investigation, a cursory groundwater investigation, was completed in December 2008. Weyerhaeuser subsequently conducted Phase 2 of the RI at the Plainwell Mill in the summer of 2011, and submitted the draft RI Report to EPA in August 2011. Additional soil and groundwater sampling as part of Phase 2 of the RI was completed during the summer of 2012. The revised RI Report for the Plainwell Mill was submitted to EPA for review in November 2012 and approved in the summer of 2013. In May 2015, EPA subsequently approved the FS Report, which evaluates various cleanup alternatives, in May 2015.

[New Paragraph] EPA signed a record of decision for the former Plainwell Paper Mill in September 2015. The selected cleanup plan requires the excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated soil from the former mill site. ~~Weyerhaeuser Paper submitted to EPA the Remedial Design Work Plan in March 2016. EPA has provided comments to Weyerhaeuser on the plan. A Pre-Design Investigation is expected to be conducted this fall. The Remedial Design Work Plan and Pre-Design Investigation Work Plan were finalized in September 2016, and Pre-Design Investigation work was completed in 2017. EPA completed its review of the Remedial Design Report in December 2017, and Remedial Action is anticipated to begin in summer 2018.~~

**From:** Saric, James  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 7, 2017 2:29 PM  
**To:** Reshkin, Karen <Reshkin.Karen@epa.gov>; Russell, Diane <russell.diane@epa.gov>; R5WebSupport <R5WebSupport@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Ostermeier, Jennifer <Ostermeier.Jennifer@epa.gov>; Cannon, Phillippa <Cannon.Phillippa@epa.gov>; Berkoff, Michael <berkoff.michael@epa.gov>; Desai, Sheila <desai.sheila@epa.gov>; Mervenne, Chelsea <mervenne.chelsea@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: WEB UPDATE for Allied Paper/Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River website

Karen,

I think this should be replaced by the latest information I provided Diane for the River. I have attached it in this email as well.

Jim

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**From:** Reshkin, Karen  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 2:20 PM  
**To:** Russell, Diane <russell.diane@epa.gov>; R5WebSupport <R5WebSupport@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Ostermeier, Jennifer <Ostermeier.Jennifer@epa.gov>; Cannon, Phillippa <Cannon.Phillippa@epa.gov>; Saric, James <saric.james@epa.gov>; Berkoff, Michael <berkoff.michael@epa.gov>; Desai, Sheila <desai.sheila@epa.gov>; Mervenne, Chelsea <mervenne.chelsea@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: WEB UPDATE for Allied Paper/Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River website

I noticed a couple places where text might need updating:

## **OPERABLE UNIT 5: PORTAGE CREEK AND KALAMAZOO RIVER SEDIMENTS**

On Feb. 21, 2007, EPA reached two settlement agreements with Georgia-Pacific Corporation and Millennium Holdings LLC, two of the Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) collectively known as the Kalamazoo River Study Group. The agreements were a result of 2 years of mediated negotiations between the PRPs and EPA, MDEQ, and the Natural Resource Trustees (including the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, MDEQ, Michigan Department of Attorney General, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service).

Under one agreement, KRSG agreed to perform the TCRA sediment excavation in the Kalamazoo River near Plainwell, Michigan (as described above under "Interim Actions").

Under the second agreement, KRSG agreed to conduct a Supplemental RI/FS on the 80-mile stretch of the Kalamazoo River from Morrow Dam to Lake Michigan and on Portage Creek from Cork Street to the confluence with the Kalamazoo River. Although large amounts of data had been obtained throughout the river, numerous areas needing further investigation were identified. The Kalamazoo River was divided into seven areas. The status of work in the various areas of the river is as follows:

- Supplemental RI/FS work is underway in Area 1 which includes a 21-mile stretch of the Kalamazoo River from Morrow Dam to the Plainwell Dam and 3 miles of Portage Creek. Sampling has been completed, and EPA approved the supplemental Remedial Investigation (SRI) Report for Area 1 in June 2012. EPA subsequently approved the final Feasibility Study (FS) Report in November 2014. The FS evaluates potential cleanup alternatives. EPA proposed a remedy for Area 1 in May 2015 and anticipates a final remedy decision in fall 2015.

- The draft SRI Report for Area 2, which includes a 1.8-mile stretch of the Kalamazoo River from the former Plainwell dam to the Otsego City dam, was submitted to EPA for review in December 2012. EPA disapproved the draft SRI Report in April 2013, a revised SRI Report in February 2014, and a newly-revised SRI Report in July 2014. The latest version of the revised SRI Report was submitted to EPA for review in May 2015.
- Initial sampling for the supplemental RI in Area 3, which includes a 3.4-mile stretch of the Kalamazoo River from the Otsego City dam to the Otsego dam, was completed in October 2012. Additional sampling in Area 3 was completed in the summer of 2013. The Area 3 draft SRI Report was submitted to EPA for review in March 2014. EPA submitted preliminary comments on the draft report in August 2014 and a revised report is expected in July 2015.
- Planning for the supplemental RI/FS in Area 4, which includes a 4.7-mile stretch of the Kalamazoo River from the Otsego City dam to the Trowbridge dam, known as the Trowbridge Impoundment, began in December 2012. A work plan to conduct field investigations was approved by EPA in June 2013. It is anticipated, given the large size of this impoundment, that the field investigation will take 3 years to complete. In 2014, Georgia Pacific, with oversight from MDEQ and EPA, conducted field reconnaissance work and conducted the first phase of sampling. Phase 2 sampling will occur in the summer/fall of 2015 and the RI report will be submitted to EPA in spring 2016.

## Operable Unit 7: Plainwell Mill

Preliminary work to remove PCB-contaminated sediment from the banks of the Plainwell Mill began in the fall of 2007 and was completed in March 2008. Approximately 5,000 cubic yards of material were removed. The first phase of the Remedial Investigation, a cursory groundwater investigation, was completed in December 2008. Weyerhaeuser subsequently conducted Phase 2 of the RI at the Plainwell Mill in the summer of 2011, and submitted the draft RI Report to EPA in August 2011. Additional soil and groundwater sampling as part of Phase 2 of the RI was completed during the summer of 2012. The revised RI Report for the Plainwell Mill was submitted to EPA for review in November 2012 and approved in the summer of 2013. EPA subsequently approved the FS Report, which evaluates various cleanup alternatives, in May 2015. EPA signed a record of decision for the former Plainwell Paper Mill in September 2015. The selected cleanup plan requires the excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated soil from the former mill site. Weyerhaeuser Paper submitted to EPA the Remedial Design Work Plan in March 2016. EPA has provided comments to Weyerhaeuser on the plan. A Pre-Design Investigation is expected to be conducted this fall.

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**From:** Russell, Diane

**Sent:** Thursday, December 7, 2017 1:46 PM

**To:** R5WebSupport <[R5WebSupport@epa.gov](mailto:R5WebSupport@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Ostermeier, Jennifer <[Ostermeier.Jennifer@epa.gov](mailto:Ostermeier.Jennifer@epa.gov)>; Reshkin, Karen <[Reshkin.Karen@epa.gov](mailto:Reshkin.Karen@epa.gov)>; Cannon, Phillippa <[Cannon.Phillippa@epa.gov](mailto:Cannon.Phillippa@epa.gov)>; Saric, James <[saric.james@epa.gov](mailto:saric.james@epa.gov)>; Berkoff, Michael <[berkoff.michael@epa.gov](mailto:berkoff.michael@epa.gov)>; Desai, Sheila <[desai.sheila@epa.gov](mailto:desai.sheila@epa.gov)>; Mervenne, Chelsea <[mervenne.chelsea@epa.gov](mailto:mervenne.chelsea@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: WEB UPDATE for Allied Paper/Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River website

Also – please remove the following from the Cleanup Activities>What Is the Current Site Status? Section (<https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/SiteProfiles/index.cfm?fuseaction=second.cleanup&id=0502325>)

until I can get a more recent update (please don't delete text that starts with "The site's long-term remedy includes controlling....":

## March 2017 Update

### **Kalamazoo River Cleanup Progress**

In September 2015, EPA signed a document called the "record of decision" for Area 1 of the river. (Area 1 is the portion of the Kalamazoo River between Morrow Dam and the former Plainwell Dam, and includes Portage Creek between Cork Street and the Kalamazoo River.) The cleanup for Area 1 includes excavation of PCB-contaminated hot spots in a 2-mile section of the Kalamazoo River near the confluence of Portage Creek, and floodplain soil removal in the Plainwell Impoundment near the former Plainwell Dam. Work should start in 2018. On December 21, 2016 EPA issued a Unilateral Administrative Order to Georgia-Pacific, International Paper and Weyerhaeuser to conduct the work specified in the ROD.

In February 2016, EPA approved the Area 3 site investigation report. This report also shows high levels of PCB-contamination in soil and sediment. (Area 3 is the Kalamazoo River between the Otsego City Dam and the Otsego Township Dam.) In June 2016, Georgia-Pacific submitted the Alternative Screening Technical Memorandum, which evaluates various technologies that may be available to manage contamination in this area. In January 2017, EPA provided comments on the ASTM document, and the Area 2 Feasibility Study report, which evaluates cleanup alternatives, is due to EPA on October 2, 2017. In August 2016, work began on a Time-Critical Removal Action in the Kalamazoo River upstream of the Otsego Township dam and the M-89 bridge (see **Otsego Township Dam - Time-Critical Removal** update below).

Georgia-Pacific submitted the draft Area 4 site investigation report in September 2017. This document shows where and how soil and sediment sampling was conducted in Area 4 of the river. (Area 4 is the Kalamazoo River between the Otsego Township Dam and Trowbridge Dam.) This document is currently being reviewed by EPA.

In November 2016, Georgia-Pacific submitted the work plan for the investigation of Area 5 (Area 5 is the Kalamazoo River between the Trowbridge Dam and Allegan City Dam.) This officially started the Area 5 investigation. Field investigations will begin in 2017.

### **March 8, 2017 Public Meeting Presentation and Handout**

- [Area 2 Feasibility Study Meeting Presentation \(PDF\) \(43pp, 17MB\) March 8, 2017](#)
- [Kalamazoo River Area 2 Cleanup Alternatives \(PDF\) \(2p, 3MB\)](#)

### **Allied Paper Landfill Update**

EPA has been working with the bankruptcy Trustee for Allied Landfill to implement the remedial design for the remedy selected in the September 21, 2016 Record of Decision. The remedy includes consolidation and capping of the waste into a 27-acre area and long-term groundwater monitoring.

- [Operable Unit 1 - Allied Landfill Record of Decision September 2016](#)

### **Otsego Township Dam - Time-Critical Removal**

Dredging work started in August 2016 in the first "Bank Removal and Stabilization Area" (BRSA) near the Pine Creek dam. Nearly 3000 feet of riverbank was cleaned up with the removal of over 7000 tons of PCB-contaminated soils and sediments. Over the winter months, land clearing and staging area and access road construction will occur to prepare for cleanup along three additional BRSA's to be addressed in early 2017. Planning for the remaining BRSA's and removal of the temporary water control structure is underway with the expected completion of the project by mid-2018.

### **Plainwell Mill Update**

EPA signed a record of decision for the former Plainwell Paper Mill in September 2015. The selected cleanup plan requires the excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated soil from the former mill site. The Remedial

Design Work Plan and Pre-Design Investigation Work Plan were finalized in September, and the Pre-Design Investigation Report is expected to be submitted to EPA in Spring 2017.

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**From:** Russell, Diane

**Sent:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 2:37 PM

**To:** R5WebSupport <[R5WebSupport@epa.gov](mailto:R5WebSupport@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Ostermeier, Jennifer <[Ostermeier.Jennifer@epa.gov](mailto:Ostermeier.Jennifer@epa.gov)>; Reshkin, Karen <[Reshkin.Karen@epa.gov](mailto:Reshkin.Karen@epa.gov)>; Cannon, Phillippa <[Cannon.Phillippa@epa.gov](mailto:Cannon.Phillippa@epa.gov)>; James Saric <[saric.james@epa.gov](mailto:saric.james@epa.gov)> <[saric.james@epa.gov](mailto:saric.james@epa.gov)>; Berkoff, Michael <[berkoff.michael@epa.gov](mailto:berkoff.michael@epa.gov)>; Desai, Sheila <[desai.sheila@epa.gov](mailto:desai.sheila@epa.gov)>; Mervenne, Chelsea <[mervenne.chelsea@epa.gov](mailto:mervenne.chelsea@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** WEB UPDATE for Allied Paper/Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River website

Hello – I need the following updated for the [www.epa.gov/superfund/allied-paper-kalamazoo](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/allied-paper-kalamazoo) website -  
Section: Announcement and key topics.

Please replace text with:

EPA selected a plan to clean up contaminated soil and sediment at a portion of the Allied Paper Inc./Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Superfund site near Otsego, Mich. Part of the plan is to remove the Otsego city dam. EPA plans to negotiate an agreement to ensure responsible parties pay for and implement the cleanup.

The recently signed [record of decision](#) is for the cleanup of the 1.9-mile stretch of the Kalamazoo River between the former Plainwell Dam and the Otsego city dam, known as area 2 of operable unit 5 of the Superfund site. The cleanup addresses polychlorinated biphenyl, or PCB, contamination in sediment and soil from historic paper recycling operations.

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The link to the “record of decision” is <https://semspub.epa.gov/work/05/541528.pdf>

Please keep the remaining links to the survey and the community resources.

Thank you!

*Diane Russell*

Community Involvement Coordinator  
U.S. EPA Region 5 Superfund Division

Community Information Office  
1300 Bluff St., Suite 140  
Flint, MI 48504

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